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CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY REPORT

INFORMATION REPORT

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SUPPLEMENT TO: [REDACTED] REPORT NO. [REDACTED]

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1. At noon on 6 June 1953, [REDACTED] Rudolf Steinwand, head of the Iron and Steel Main Department of the Ministry for Metallurgy and Ore Mining in East Berlin, [REDACTED] effective at once, the SED Politbuero had ordered rigorous plan changes. Steinwand requested the leading employees to come to the office on Sunday, 7 June 1953, to prepare new plan proposals.

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2. On 7 June 1953, the employees of the Ministry for Metallurgy and Ore Mining and those of the Ministry for Light Industry who had appeared to revise the plans, were sent home again as the new documents for the two ministries had not yet been completed by the Soviet High Commission in Karlshorst.

3. On Wednesday, 10 June 1953, a conference of the department heads of the Iron and Steel Industry-Main Department-took place under the chairmanship of department head Wilhelm Salzer. Salzer then gave a detailed report on the measures ordered by the SED Politbuero, stating that the ministers were directed to slow down the industrial development to improve the supply of the population with consumer goods, and that the 1953 economy plan and the 1954 and 1955 plans would have to be revised on the basis of these measures. Salzer finally cited the directives issued by Minister Selbmann for the changes to be executed in the field of the activity of the Iron and Steel Industry-Main Department-and stressed that the figures quoted in the directives of the Minister had not yet been confirmed, and, consequently, could be changed. He added that a meeting of the Ministerial Council was called for 12 June 1953 which would possibly confirm the proposals of the Minister.

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L. [REDACTED] Comment: The newly planned pig iron and raw steel quotas for the iron and steel VEBs [REDACTED] indicate that, as compared with previous plan figures, the following changes are scheduled.

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| Previous 1954 plan figure (in tons) | 1954 plan figure on the basis of the present report (in tons) | Previous 1955 plan figure (in tons) | 1955 plan figure on the basis of the present report (in tons) |
|-------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Pig iron | 1,855,000 | 2,035,000 | 1,850,000 |
| Raw steel | 2,995,000 | 3,720,000 | 3,000,000 |

These statements indicate that no considerable increase in production is to be expected until 1955.

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